

Work has changed. Why hasn't the office?

Global research reveals why employees are ready to return and why the office isn't ready for them.

We're headed back to the office.

80%

of employers are mandating a full or partial return to the office.

72%

of employees feel positive about going back to the office.

55%

of employers believe current hybrid work setups are not working.

From mandate to magnet.

Even though employers and employees are ready for the return to the office.

The office is not ready.

It's time to rethink everything about the office—from the purpose it serves to the spaces where people work and collaborate.



Offices are not built for collaboration.

only 42%

of employees believe the office is fully prepared to support hybrid work.

85%

of employers say most of their office space is dedicated to personal workspaces.

76%

of employees say meeting rooms are ineffective at enhancing productivity.

The top reasons employees want to return to the office.

Collaboration and learning 75%

Ideation and brainstorming 59%

Interacting with colleagues 69%

Developing a sense of belonging 47%

Reshaping the workplace for hybrid work.

Today, the primary reason people want to go into the office is to collaborate and build meaningful connections. So how do you transform the office into a destination for collaboration?

Traditional office

- From default place to work
- From individual work and collaboration
- From assigned desks
- From optimized for in-person attendees

Hybrid office

- to purposeful workspaces
- to collaboration-centric
- to hot desks
- to everyone has an equal voice

Solving the challenges of hybrid work.

To build the right workspace for today's workforce, you need to understand and meet your team's needs. Here's what's top of mind for employees—and how the right office design can help.

Challenge
Ensuring the office can effectively support collaboration while delivering great employee experiences.

only 48%

of meeting rooms are equipped with audio and video capabilities.

80%

reported the performance of their meeting rooms needs improvement.

Solution
Redesign your office to support hybrid workers by increasing the availability of hot desks and video-enabled collaboration spaces.

Challenge
Ensure everyone is included, no matter where they're working.

40%

of office interactions now involve remote participants.

1 in 4

have difficulty collaborating with remote team members.

Solution
Deploy intelligent meeting room technology to maximize engagement.

Challenge
Providing employees with the right technology so they can seamlessly transition between home and the office.

87%

report current collaboration tools don't integrate seamlessly.

59%

believe current collaboration tools are ineffective.

Solution
Choose a secure collaboration solution that works a broad set of integrations and equip workspaces with interoperable video devices.

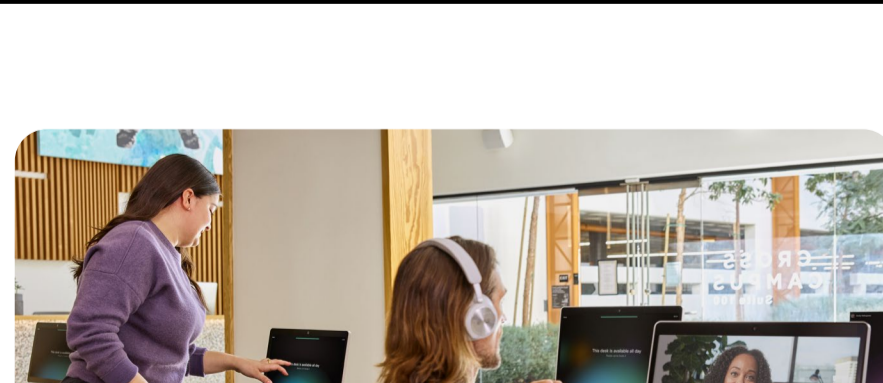
The hybrid office checklist.

- ✓ Voice and video enable every space
- ✓ Ensure everyone has the tech they need to feel connected in any location
- ✓ Enable frictionless hot desking
- ✓ Provide intuitive wayfinding and room booking
- ✓ Continually optimize spaces with real-time data

What's next?

The office today serves a new purpose and requires new kinds of experiences.

At Cisco, we are better poised to help companies transform their offices because we've been through it too. See how we increased our office attendance by 3x.



[See How](#)

Discover more about the evolution of the office by downloading the full report.

[Get Report](#)

All data from "From Mandate to Magnet: The Race to Reimagine Workplaces and Workspace for a Hybrid Future" (Cisco, March 2024).

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